

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5-14, 16-25 and 28-36 are all the claims pending in the Application, as claims 4, 15 and 27 are hereby cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for conducting a personal interview with Applicant's representative on October 14, 2005. At the personal interview, *inter alia*, the rejection of claims 4, 15, and 27 as being anticipated by *Polizzi et al.* (US 2002/0023158; hereinafter "*Polizzi*") was discussed. Specifically, Applicant's representative pointed out that, in contrast to dependent claim 4, 15 and 27's recitation of a direct connection between the interface module and the port module for communicating independently from the connection manager, *Polizzi* discloses that service broker 125, *inter alia*: (1) "controls access to the portal system 120 by a particular user 100" (par. 0035); (2) "provides session management services for users" (par. 0035); (3) "acts as a gateway to the other service agents within the portal system 120" (par. 0035); (4) "retrieves a set of metadata corresponding to the user's personal portal page 1000 from the repository" (par. 0091); (5) retrieving and dispatching a "job (along with the user context) to an appropriate job server 230" (par. 0092); and (6) after the job is run and an output report generated, the "output report will then be transmitted to the service broker 125 so that it can be forwarded to the user who requested it" (par. 0093). In other words, Applicant's representative showed that *Polizzi*'s service broker manages all of the portal system 120's communication with network interface 105, and is accordingly always interposed between network interface 105 and agents 130, which is quite different from the arrangement recited in dependent claims 4, 15 and 27.

Supplemental Amendment
U.S. Appln. No.: 09/750,432

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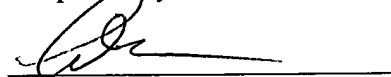
Thus, it is Applicant's representative's understanding that, based on the amendment of independent claims 1, 14 and 25 to include the features of claims 4, 15 and 27, the current rejection of independent claims 1, 14 and 25 based upon *Polizzi* will be withdrawn, and the Examiner will conduct a further search.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-3, 5-14, 16-25 and 28-36 are allowable. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the application now is in condition for allowance with all of the claims 1-3, 5-14, 16-25 and 28-36.

If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Please charge any fees which may be required to maintain the pendency of this application, except for the Issue Fee, to our Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

Respectfully submitted,



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